

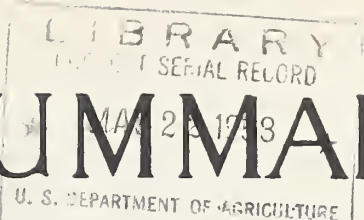
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# STATISTICAL SUMMARY



Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-183

February 21, 1958

## Cattle Numbers Down 1 Percent

Crop Reporting Board's annual inventory shows cattle numbers down 1 percent from a year ago. The 94 million head of cattle and calves on U. S. farms and ranches January 1 compare with 94.5 million head a year earlier, and the record high of 96.8 million 2 years ago. For the 10 year period 1947-56, numbers averaged 86.6 million head.

This is the second year in a row that cattle numbers have been reduced. Reduction last year and this year followed 7 consecutive years of increases. Current estimate, although the lowest since 1952, is only 3 percent below the record high reached on January 1, 1956 and is 9 percent above the 10-year average.

All areas except two showed reductions in cattle numbers during 1957. Only the West North Central and South Atlantic areas showed increases.

## Fewer Numbers of All Except Sheep

On the basis of their economic importance, meat animals (cattle, hogs and sheep taken together) were down 1 percent from a year ago; work stock numbers, down 6 percent; cattle kept for milk (cows, heifers and calves) down 2 percent; and poultry, down 5 percent. Taken separately, sheep and lamb numbers were up 2 percent and stock sheep were up 3 percent from a year ago--the only categories to show an increase. Hogs taken separately showed only a very small decline in numbers.

## Other Livestock January 1, 1958<sup>1</sup>

Milk Cows (2 years and over)--24.4 million head; compared with 22.9 million a year ago and 23.9 million 10-year average.

Hogs--51.6 million head; compared with 51.7 million a year ago and 55.4 million 10-year (1947-56) average.

All Sheep--31.3 million head; compared with 30.8 million a year ago and 32.1 million 10-year average.

Stock Sheep--27.4 million head; compared with 26.5 million a year ago and 27.8 million 10-year average.

Horses and Mules--3.3 million head; compared with 3.6 million a year ago and 6.7 million 10-year average.

Chickens--370.5 million head; compared with 390.1 million a year ago and 423.0 million 10-year average.

Turkeys--5.5 million head, compared with 5.8 million a year ago; 10-year average was 5.0 million.

## Hogs Increase in Corn Belt

The 51,559,000 hogs on farms compare with 51,703,000 on hand a year earlier and with the 1947-56 average of 55,350,000 head. Hog numbers were down in the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, and South Central regions...up in all other regions. In the Corn Belt (with 74 percent of the U. S. total) numbers were 2 percent above a year earlier.

## More Young Hogs; Fewer Market Hogs

Hogs and pigs under 6 months old on farms January 1 totaled 33,334,000 head, or 1 percent more than on January 1, 1957. Most of these were from the 1957 fall pig crop which was 2 percent larger than the 1956 fall crop. Sows and gilts on farms numbered 8,684,000 head. This was 5 percent more than a year earlier and reflects farmers' intentions to increase spring farrowings. Market hogs over 6 months old (excluding sows and gilts for breeding) on January 1, 1958 at 9,541,000 head were 9 percent less than a year earlier.

## Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Dec. 15 1957	Jan. 15 1958	January 1958
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) .....	28.19	27.37	37.96
Wheat (bu.) .....	1.94	1.90	2.38
Rice (100 lb.) .....	4.83	5.01	5.87
Corn (bu.) .....	.984	.931	1.74
Peanuts (lb.) .....	10.8	9.79	13.0
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.) .....	59.2	59.0	74.6
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) .....	4.51	<sup>1</sup> 4.38	4.97
Wool (lb.) .....	<sup>2</sup> 46.4	<sup>2</sup> 45.2	69.5
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) .....	.859	.855	1.33
Cottonseed (ton) .....	50.50	51.30	68.60
Flaxseed (bu.) .....	3.01	2.95	4.27
Hay, baled (ton) .....	19.20	19.00	25.40
Oats (bu.) .....	.618	.613	.870
Potatoes (cwt.) .....	1.61	1.76	2.41
Rye (bu.) .....	.985	.937	1.57
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.) .....	1.56	1.63	2.62
Soybeans (bu.) .....	2.06	2.05	2.99
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) .....	5.04	5.16	5.42
Oranges, on tree (box) .....	1.23	1.34	2.35
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) .....	2.34	2.38	3.04
Beef cattle (100 lb.) .....	18.70	19.70	22.90
Calves (100 lb.) .....	20.90	22.20	25.20
Hogs (100 lb.) .....	17.90	18.50	21.70
Lambs (100 lb.) .....	20.50	21.60	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.) .....	15.6	19.0	28.1
Eggs (dozen) .....	44.4	38.9	47.9

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

<sup>1</sup> Numbers on farms and ranches in the U.S. For numbers and total values by States, see the full report, "Livestock and Poultry Inventory", Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

### Values Generally Higher

Gross value of all livestock (January 1 inventory) was 14.2 billion dollars, 27 percent above that of a year ago. Although the aggregate number of livestock and poultry on farms January 1 was down by 4 percent, the improved price was sufficient to provide a 3.0 billion dollar gain in total value over a year earlier.

Average value per head of all cattle was up 31 percent; milk cows up 20 percent; hogs up 22 percent; stock sheep up 30 percent; and the value of horses and mules was up 17 percent. Value of chickens per head was up an average of 8 percent while the value for turkeys was down 13 percent from a year earlier.

### Values Per Head, Jan. 1, With Comparisons

Cattle on Jan. 1, 1958 were valued at \$120.00 per head, compared with \$91.60 a year earlier, \$88.00 in '56 and \$121.00 for the 1947-56 average (Values are farm values).

Milk Cows 2 years and older--\$176.00; a year

### Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1957				1958
	Jan.	Yr.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup> .....	Mil. 57.6	Mil. 58.8	Mil. 59.1	Mil. 59.0	Mil. 57.2
Farm employment.....	5.4	7.6	7.2	5.8	5.3
Family.....	4.5	5.8	5.6	4.7	4.4
Hired .....	1.0	1.8	1.6	1.0	.9
Index numbers (1947-49=100)					
Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....	146	143	139	136	133
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup> .....	166	170	171	170	-
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....	166	163	161	158	150
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> .....	156	156	157	156	154
Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup> .....	117	118	118	118	119
Farm commodities.....	89	91	92	93	94
Food, processed .....	104	106	106	107	109
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....	118	120	122	122	-
Food.....	113	115	116	116	-
Index numbers (1910-14=100)					
Prices received by farmers .....	238	242	242	242	247
Crops.....	238	234	224	218	225
Food grains.....	236	225	221	221	217
Feed grains and hay.....	187	170	152	152	146
Cotton.....	256	264	263	239	232
Tobacco.....	457	465	473	466	474
Oil bearing crops.....	266	253	235	237	233
Fruit.....	227	214	187	180	183
Vegetables for fresh market.....	237	256	241	240	334
Livestock and products .....	238	249	258	264	267
Meat animals .....	254	278	278	294	308
Dairy products.....	270	263	279	275	269
Poultry and eggs .....	155	162	188	185	174
Prices paid by farmers .....					
All commodities .....	269	273	275	276	277
Used in living.....	283	286	289	289	289
Used in production.....	255	258	260	263	264
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).....	292	296	298	299	301
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted.....	554	558	565	565	567
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) .....	82	82	81	81	82

<sup>1</sup>Bureau of the Census.

<sup>2</sup>Federal Reserve Board.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Commerce.

<sup>4</sup>Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ago, \$147.00; 2 years ago, \$139.00; 10-year average \$177.00.

Hogs--\$30.10; year ago, \$24.70; 2 years ago, \$17.70; 10-year average, \$31.80.

Stock Sheep--\$19.40; year ago, \$14.90; 2 years ago \$14.30; 10-year average \$17.50.

Horses and Mules--\$83.90; year ago \$71.60; 2 years ago \$62.60; 10-year average \$62.40.

Chickens--\$1.26 per head; year ago \$1.17; 2 years ago \$1.26; 10-year average \$1.40.

Turkeys--\$4.68 per head; year ago, \$5.05; 2 years ago \$5.50; 10-year average \$6.54.

Texas Goats--\$9.00; up \$2.80 from year ago.

### Good Wheat Prospects in Great Plains

Prospects for winter wheat in the Great Plains continued favorable as of February 1. The abundant soil moisture in the fall aided germination, pushed early growth, and helped well-rooted plants cover the ground with unusually heavy growth before dormancy. In winter wheat areas of Montana, Washington and Oregon, continued warmth has delayed wheat dormancy and aroused fear of damage should a sudden freeze strike without protective snow cover. In much of the South Central and Southeastern States, too much cold, wet weather has hindered growth of winter grains.

### Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Dec. 1956	Jan.-Dec. 1957
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	<sup>1</sup> 9.7	<sup>1</sup> 9.8
Evaporated whole milk.....	Mil. lb.	2,540	2,459
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food) .....	Mil. lb.	1,545	1,693
Butter, creamery .....	Mil. lb.	1,410	1,422
Cheese, American .....	Mil. lb.	991	1,023
Ice cream .....	Mil. gal.	641	648
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs.....	Billions	<sup>1</sup> 5.3	<sup>1</sup> 5.3
Poultry meat <sup>2</sup> .....	Mil. lb.	4,892	5,040
Canned poultry.....	Mil. lb.	196	227
Liquid egg .....	Mil. lb.	465	473
Dried egg (egg solids) .....	Mil. lb.	22.1	28.2
Frozen egg .....	Mil. lb.	349	334
Chicks hatched, total <sup>3</sup> .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 156.8	<sup>1</sup> 173.4
Chicks hatched, broiler <sup>3</sup> .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 124.6	<sup>1</sup> 137.8
Poult hatched <sup>3</sup> .....			
Heavy breeds .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 3.1	<sup>1</sup> 2.5
Light breeds.....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 1.0	<sup>1</sup> .8
<u>Meat Production<sup>2</sup></u> (dressed weight)			
Beef .....	Mil. lb.	14,090	13,831
Veal .....	Mil. lb.	1,541	1,435
Pork .....	Mil. lb.	10,284	9,580
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	728	695
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	26,643	25,541
<u>Slaughter<sup>2</sup></u>			
Cattle.....	1,000 head	26,862	26,184
Calves.....	1,000 head	12,512	11,859
Hogs .....	1,000 head	78,513	72,601
Sheep and lambs .....	1,000 head	15,993	14,956

<sup>1</sup> January 1957 and 1958

<sup>2</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>3</sup> By commercial hatcheries.



### Weather Favorable to Livestock in Wide Areas

Livestock benefited from warmer than normal January weather over most of the Nation west of the Central Corn Belt. Continued mild open weather has reduced maintenance needs for stored forage and feed...has aided weight gains and milk production.

Western livestock to February 1, have seldom enjoyed an easier winter and favorable reports are general concerning progress of early lambs and calves...range and pasture condition has been exceeded only once in the past 25 years.

In much of the South and especially in the Southeast, however, livestock have had poor grazing due to cold weather and wet fields...have needed heavy supplementary feeding.

### More Oranges Reported; Grapefruit, No Change

Salvage of more freeze-damaged oranges in Florida than expected moves the orange production estimate up from last month by 3.8 million boxes. Estimated 116 million boxes (including tangerines) is 15 percent below last year's total and 5 percent below average. Freeze of February 5 apparently did little additional damage to the already badly-damaged citrus crop.

Total orange crop is made up of 65.8 million boxes Early and Midseason oranges, 47.9 million boxes of Valencias, and 2.4 million boxes of tangerines.

Grapefruit estimate, at 40.8 million boxes, remains the same as a month ago--9 percent below last year and 12 percent below average.

### Winter Potato Crop Down from Last Year

Production of winter potatoes is forecast at 4,975,000 hundredweight, 27 percent below 1957 production but 32 percent above the 1949-56 average. Estimate is down 715,000 cwt. from a month ago and is the result of adverse weather conditions in Florida, including the February 5 freeze.

### Milk Production Well Above Average

The 9.8 billion pounds of milk produced on farms during January was 1 percent above January last year and 14 percent above the 1947-56 average. Heavy feeding and high yield per cow.

On a per capita basis, there was little change in production from a year earlier--1.83 pounds daily for each person compared with 1.84 in January last year and the 10-year average of 1.79 for the same month.

Value of grain and concentrates fed to milk cows at mid-January averaged \$2.84 per hundredweight for the country as a whole. This was down from last year by 7 percent, and the milk-feed price ratio was the most favorable for the date since 1945.

### Smaller Egg Production

Hens laid 5,251 million eggs during January--1 percent less than a year earlier. Decreases were 6 percent in the South Central States, 5 percent in the North Atlantic, 1 percent in the East North Central and South Atlantic. Production in the West North Central States was about the same as a year earlier while in the Western States production showed a 7-percent increase.

### Better Prices for Poultry--Except Turkeys

Farm chickens brought farmers 14.7 cents per pound, liveweight, in mid-January, compared with 14.1 a year earlier. Commercial broilers averaged 19.9 cents per pound compared with 18.0 a year earlier.

Turkey prices averaged 22.6 cents per pound liveweight, 5 cents under the average in mid-January of last year. (Storage stocks of turkeys January 1 totaled 178 million pounds; 162 million year earlier; 1952-56 average stocks, 129 million).

## CURRENT ESTIMATES

### Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings by States, December 1957<sup>1</sup>

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine.....	11,196	7,142	18,338
New Hampshire.....	4,902	1,150	6,052
Vermont.....	8,877	602	9,479
Massachusetts.....	10,304	5,950	16,254
Rhode Island.....	1,371	641	2,012
Connecticut.....	8,538	4,298	12,836
New York.....	53,677	15,649	69,326
New Jersey.....	17,230	6,498	23,728
Pennsylvania.....	50,770	14,302	65,072
Ohio.....	52,242	33,441	85,683
Indiana.....	52,013	15,269	67,282
Illinois.....	90,471	15,307	105,778
Michigan.....	32,638	20,762	53,400
Wisconsin.....	75,356	7,052	82,408
Minnesota.....	75,582	29,349	104,931
Iowa.....	152,765	18,946	171,711
Missouri.....	55,488	28,683	84,171
North Dakota.....	18,882	18,477	37,359
South Dakota.....	33,070	7,254	40,324
Nebraska.....	61,922	24,962	86,884
Kansas.....	46,244	35,675	81,919
Delaware.....	6,214	1,983	8,197
Maryland.....	14,963	4,043	19,006
Virginia.....	18,891	23,189	42,080
West Virginia.....	5,836	5,050	10,886
North Carolina.....	23,042	35,638	58,680
South Carolina.....	8,568	17,212	25,780
Georgia.....	33,127	8,748	41,875
Florida.....	14,448	50,481	64,929
Kentucky.....	19,125	141,357	160,482
Tennessee.....	16,284	52,234	68,518
Alabama.....	19,366	12,360	31,726
Mississippi.....	18,282	47,785	66,067
Arkansas.....	20,200	63,318	83,518
Louisiana.....	10,441	42,106	52,547
Oklahoma.....	22,562	18,883	41,445
Texas.....	66,960	247,111	314,071
Montana.....	22,993	13,580	36,573
Idaho.....	15,892	20,862	36,754
Wyoming.....	4,160	3,958	8,118
Colorado.....	23,089	17,679	40,768
New Mexico.....	9,721	19,447	29,168
Arizona.....	10,491	58,078	68,569
Utah.....	8,822	3,958	12,780
Nevada.....	4,840	828	5,668
Washington.....	16,020	26,880	42,900
Oregon.....	17,392	18,539	35,931
California.....	93,926	205,594	299,520
United States.....	1,460,193	1,472,310	2,932,503

<sup>1</sup> All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Community Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

## Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States<sup>1</sup>

	December 1957	January 1958 <sup>2</sup>
<b>CASH RECEIPTS:</b>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> .....	2,933	2,600
Livestock and products .....	1,460	1,500
Meat animals .....	751	
Dairy products .....	377	
Poultry and eggs .....	307	
Other .....	25	
Crops .....	1,473	1,100
Food grains .....	96	
Feed crops .....	265	
Cotton (lint and seed) .....	462	
Oil-bearing crops .....	71	
Tobacco .....	204	
Vegetables .....	104	
Fruits and tree nuts .....	114	
Other .....	157	
Government payments .....	48	
Grand total .....	2,981	
<b>VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:</b>	1947-49 = 100	
All commodities .....	131	113
Livestock and products .....	117	120
Crops .....	149	103

<sup>1</sup>For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. <sup>2</sup>Preliminary. <sup>3</sup>Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

### Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost <sup>1</sup>	Farm value <sup>2</sup>	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1956 average .....	972	390	582	40
1956 December .....	979	389	590	40
1957 November .....	1,011	407	604	40
1957 December .....	1,016	413	603	41

<sup>1</sup>Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>2</sup>Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

### Further Reductions in Vegetables

This year's winter vegetable output is now expected to be down from last year by 15 percent, and to be 18 percent below average. Greatest reductions are for tomatoes, sweet corn, carrots, snap beans, green peppers, cauliflower, cucumbers; smaller losses for celery, eggplant, escarole, broccoli, lettuce, and Brussels sprouts. Increases expected for beets, cabbage and artichokes. Most of the reductions from earlier forecasts are from adverse weather in Florida. Forecast includes freeze damage of February 4 and 5.

### Seasonal Drop in Farm Employment

The total of 5,289,000 persons at work on U. S. farms in late January was down seasonally from a month earlier by 8 percent, or nearly a half-million workers from a month earlier. All regions showed declines, ranging from 2 to 21 percent. Largest drops occurred in the South Atlantic and East South Central States. Adverse weather was a big factor in the decline, especially in the Eastern half of the country.

Total was made up of 4,391,000 farm family workers (working farm operators and unpaid members of their families) and 898,000 hired workers--lowest for the latter since 1925. Number of family workers dropped 7 percent from a month earlier; hired, 13 percent. Compared with a year earlier, total farm employment was down 2 percent.

### Farm Population Continues to Decline

Population living on U. S. farms numbered about 20,396,000 in April 1957, compared with 22,257,000 for 1956. During the longer period 1950 to 1957, the farm population decreased by 4,662,000 persons...part of the long-time downward trend which by 1957 had reduced farm residents to 12 percent of the Nation's total population. (For regional figures, see "Farm Population Estimates for 1957," AMS-80-1957, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.)